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# 2600

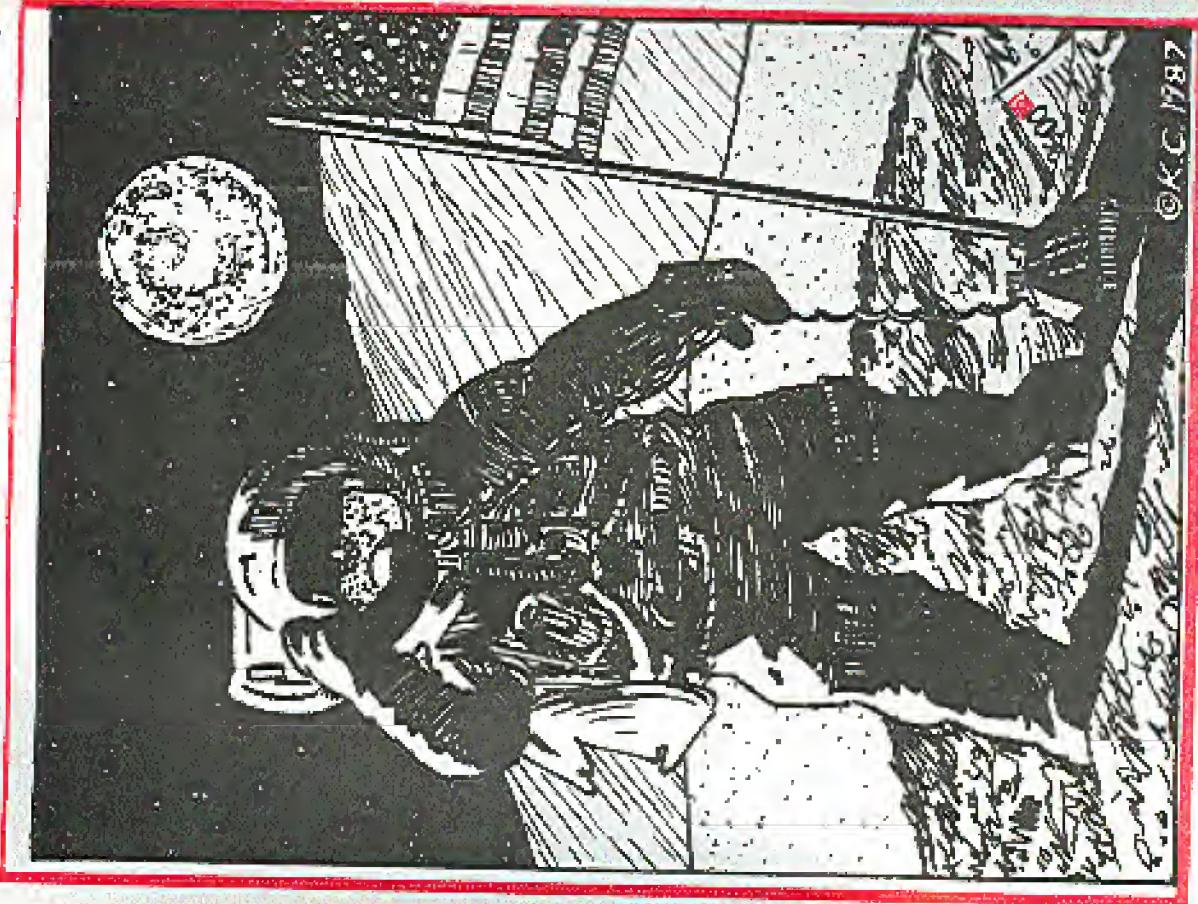
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WARNING:  
MISSING LABEL

2600 Magazine  
PO Box 752  
Middle Island, NY 11953 U.S.A.

The Monthly Journal of the American Hacker

\$2      Volume 4, Number 10      October, 1987



**DO YOU HAVE BACK ISSUES OF 2600?** If not, look what you're missing!

*W. W. Godwin's Journal of  
Crafts from the West Coast.*

*and get questions answered.  
For us, the important thing is*

We've had calls from England. America. Holland. And even Africa.

It seems that quite a few people from all over are interested in running computer bulletin board systems under

*the name of 26th Magazine. And it looks as if this may finally be the month that we start for real in earnest.*

What's so important about a hub-and-board network that spans the globe?

Well, for one thing it will be an easy way for subscribers and non-subscribers alike

TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE AUTHOR.

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100

**MASCHEN:** Sind salzhaltige Chlorsäure mit 300-500 mg/L  
oder schweflige Säure mit 2000 mg/L  
oder schweflige Säure mit 2000 mg/L  
oder schweflige Säure mit 2000 mg/L

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REVIEWED AND INDEXED BY COMPUTER.

McGraw-Hill, New York, 1969-1970.

Page 2 October 1997

{continued on inside back cover}



## telco response

After months of trying, we've finally managed to get a response from the telephone company concerning our battle to eliminate the fee for touch tone service (see July 1987 issue).

We've received a fair amount of publicity concerning this matter. Consumer-oriented radio stations like WNYC in New York have shown a great interest and devoted time to the growing battle. Several newspapers have reprinted our press release and it was one of three that drew

Their touch tones when an upgrade is electronic switching. Not so, says the phone company—the customer is always asked to pay before service is disrupted. Well, we don't base our conclusions on mere speculation. We know of many people who have lost the use of their telephone lines, their central office cut out, in the instant their central office cut out in electronic switching. The fact that the phone company claims this never happens is further evidence of their distorted perception.

the response which was written by Bruce Reisman, a staff director of media relations for New York Telephone. Since more than a month passed between the printing of the press release and Reisman's reply, we believe that some consultation was involved and that this is pretty much the official view of New York Telephone.

WHAT IS HAVING IMPACT HERE, REISHMAN STATED. "THIS IS THE PRACTICE THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES... ITS LONGSTANDING PUBLIC POLICY." THE SAME WORDS COULD HAVE BEEN USED TO DESCRIBE RACIAL SEGREGATION ONCE. THE FACT THAT AN UNFAIR PRACTICE IS OCCURRING ALL OVER DOES NOT MAKE IT RIGHT OR JUSTIFIABLE. AND THE POPULATE IS MOST DEFINITELY WAKING UP TO THIS UNFAIRNESS.

He goes on to justify the cost, claiming central office equipment that recognizes tones has to be paid for, as well as the labor involved in making the change from pulse to tone. This logic is so flimsy that a child could knock it over. As we said in our press release, touch-tone decoding devices are standard equipment for practically every central office in existence. Every electronic switch has the capability of allowing touch tones on all of its lines. The only thing preventing this is an "N" instead of a "Y" inside the customer database. Which brings us to the labor question. Just how much should the company take in for changing an "N" to a "Y"? Mystery? Reisenan says \$10.55 is reasonable. We say let's stop kidding the public.

We were accused of misleading when we claimed that customers very often lost the use in

papers and send us a copy. If you're not clear on the facts or have any questions or comments, call us at (516) 751-2500.

And finally, the USA's misfortune: local telephone service also enables the customer to conveniently bank or shop electronically from home." This is simply not true. As long as you have a touch tone phone, you can use any of those bank-at-home services. The only thing the phone company can do is prevent you from placing a call with tones. Once you're connected they have no way of deactivating your tones. The tones, after all, are created inside your phone, not inside the phone company. If everyone realized that, their policy would never have survived this long.

But things are changing. There will be an article in the November issue of *Population Communications* that points out the unfairness of this too, not just in New York, but nationwide. We are bombarding the New York Public Service Commission with information about this and we expect some kind of a reaction from that entity.

We need your continued support. Spread the word. Tell your parents. Tell your children. Tell your elected officials. Write letters to your local papers and send us a copy. If you're not clear on

Telephone company responds to criticism of Touch-tone fees

## Comment

# the telecom informer

BY GOLDSTEIN

If you're thinking of stealing a bus in Massachusetts, you should know that unless you get around an electronic anti-theft device, you have the words "Call Police" flashing in the front where the destination usually is. A couple of months ago that's exactly what happened. Except nobody noticed the flashing sign, or at least no one thought anything of it. It seems this guy went around picking up people for free, depositing them at his bus stops. "All my life I've wanted to do this," he said. "We've seen surprisingly few private television transmissions recently. In fact, we haven't seen any. But in Poland they're becoming rather frequent—and popular." Most recently, a Solidarnosc radio station broke in on the sound frequency of a TV broadcast to urge Poles to shelter a Soviet army deserter who was in town. Mastercard is buying the Cirrus system, which means that Cirrus customers will be able to use Mastercard/Telecommunications capabilities and Mastercard will become the world's leading debit card organization. This will link together about 80,000 automatic teller machines starting January 1, 1988.

These features make it easier to identify forewarn, Call Trace, and Interca Call. These features make it easier to identify incoming calls and to get through to busy numbers. If any of our subscribers have the opportunity to participate in these tests, please contact us. We have a whole series of experiments we'd like to try on these features.... We've made as well as used to be nationwide keepers are popping up everywhere. At a cost of \$300,500 a month, it will soon be almost impossible to be out of range.... U.S. Sprint is going through hell. Combining the telephone networks and accounting systems of United Tel's communications and GTE has proved to be a much

greater task than originally anticipated.

Already \$25 million has been written off in uncollectible accounts, apparently due to an inability to recover efficiently.

Currently, there are three different Stevens in existence: the old GTE Sprint, the old US Tel and the new US Sprint.

And introducing the new fiber optic network and T1X cards has added to the pressure.... Sprint is filing a number of civil lawsuits against people who are accused of long distance fraud. So far, the lawsuits are for \$20 million plus penalties and have been filed in Kansas City and Seattle. According to Bertrand A. Biancini, US Sprint vice president and associate general counsel, Sprint is

filing lawsuits because criminal prosecutors don't have the resources to pursue all leads in these cases.... Meanwhile, a really big fraudster has been caught selling Sprint and MCI codes for \$100 each. Thomas Abbott of Smith Shore Electronics in Lake Tahoe, California allegedly used a computer to obtain or codes and even advertised his service in the yellow pages. He used the name "Cometel Bell" which showed up right next to Pacific Bell. Customers would obtain their codes by calling a voice mailbox. It is believed that this one person cost the long distance companies more than two million dollars. As long as they knew it's not hacking.... AT&T is now distributing free copies of a business-to-business Yellow Pages directory. If you have a need for Italian yellow pages, call 800-538-BOOK.... In the mood for some fun? In Washington, DC, students living in college dorms can disconnect their telephone service without even talking to a service called "quick termination" or "Q.T." A student uses a touch tone phone and calls a special number any time of the day or night. Voice prompts guide the caller through the entire

process. The system can store a maximum of 300 disconnect requests. So far, we're unable to determine what, if any security precautions are present here.... C&P is also experimenting with distinctive ringing. By assigning up to 16 telephone numbers to the same phone line, each line can produce a different type of ring. Residents will pay about \$4 a month for one additional phone number and \$6 for two. We hope they don't mislead people into thinking they're getting three separate phone lines that can all be used at the same time.... The following news item appeared recently in *Network World*. "A scientist may have found a solution for often-annoying call-waiting tones. Deluxe call-waiting, not currently available, can temporarily suspend the call-waiting feature, quell the noise, and signal the second caller to try later. This solution requires complex software to program computerized switches to obscure the multi-tiered signaling between users, telephone company central offices and those placing the calls on the busy line." Let's cut the crap! This service has already been available, at no charge, in many locations for years. All a caller has to do is dial \*70 or 170 before placing a call or during a call and call waiting is disabled. The tone is "quelled" and, as far as signaling the second caller to try again—ever hear of a busy signal? That's what they're talking about, although they make it sound so much more complex. So who is this scientist that has found a solution that already exists? Real Communications Research and Network World are doing us all a disservice by announcing an invention that is nothing near. No doubt this is happening so that we'll get used to the idea of paying for it, deluxe call waiting, what next?.... The American Credit Card Telephone Company says it plans to offer a new service that would let customers charge

long distance calls to major credit cards from any public or private touch-tone phone. A customer would dial an 800 number and enter a Visa, American Express, or Mastercard number. The number would be validated and the call processed in seconds. According to the *New York Times*, this new service will compete with calling cards offered by AT&T. They also say that AT&T plans to offer a similar service by 1989. Does this mean AT&T will be competing with themselves? It wouldn't surprise us one bit.... The LBI is installing personal computer networks at remote sites that will be linked via gateways to mainframes at regional data processing centers. The project is known as Intelligent Workstation (IWS) and calls for more than 8,000 terminals, 700 networks, and 640 gateways. Iverson Technology of McLean, VA, was awarded the contract.... According to a new government report, computers are now keeping track of more than seven million American workers. They monitor rest breaks and productivity, and even the number of individual keystrokes on a terminal or typewriter.

The report was requested by Representative Don Edwards of California and was prepared by the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment. It's called "The Electronic Supervisor: New Technology, New Tensions." "We are becoming a surveillance society," Edwards said. "Every day we are seeing new invasions of the privacy and dignity of workers. We have occupational health and safety laws to protect workers' bodies. Now Congress needs to respond to technological threats to their dignity and privacy." The report, which describes today's office as "an electronic sweatshop", said most jobs now monitored by computers were clerical date-entry type positions, but the management technique is spreading to

# INTERNATIONAL BBS'S

(accessible from Tymnet & Telenet)

PUBLIC ACCESS SYSTEMS

24 Hr. BBS's in the  
Republic of South Africa

Altos:	026245890040004	West Germany	login: shox
M&T	026245890010006	West Germany	login: guest
CyberTalk	022846911003	Switzerland	user:Cia0543 pw: guest
		OTHER NUMBERS AROUND THE WORLD	
0 234 231354354	0 234 220641141	0 234 239232323	
0 234 219200101	0 234 22122225	0 234 275300102	
0 234 227230301	0 234 212301186	0 234 270712217	
0 234 219200871	0 234 222715151	0 234 253265165	
0 234 275317173	0 234 247300103	0 234 219709110	
0 234 219709210	0 234 263259159	0 234 270712221	
0 234 219200190	0 234 219806160	0 234 219200297	
0 234 274200103	0 234 219200394	0 234 262500484	
0 234 222530303	0 234 241260106	0 234 231354354	
0 234 233458158	0 234 239232323	0 234 241260106	
0 234 241260260	0 234 246240240	0 234 251248248	
0 234 253265165	0 234 253300142	0 234 253300124	
0 234 258200106	0 234 258240242	0 234 260227227	
0 234 261643143	0 234 261643210	0 234 261643343	
0 234 263259159	0 234 270712217	0 234 273417317	
0 234 273417217	0 234 275317177	0 234 290468168	
0 234 290524242	0 234 292549149	0 234 293212212	
0 234 299212221	0 234 307813	0 234 219200118	
0 234 223519111	0 234 219200222	0 234 252724241	
0 234 2192001082	0 234 222339399	0 234 212301187	
0 234 222236163	0 234 2130001511	0 234 215710104	
0 234 21440012	0 234 293212212	0 234 274253385	
0 234 248300106	0 234 248321321	0 234 227230231	

Networks like Telnet and Tymnet usually require an ID of some sort before access to international numbers is granted. Watch future issues for more numbers. Let us know if you get through to any of those.

THE INFO ON THESE TWO PAGES COURTESY OF  
*The Greek*

# READER RESPONSE

## Verification and Tracing

switching equipment installed but I don't know what type it is yet.

**Joshua Falkon**

I have a few things to say and a few questions to ask.

First of all, a lot of people were complaining about the printed size of your recent issues. I personally like the size. I have worked out a nice binder arrangement for them. If you are familiar with the methods that many libraries use for storing magazines and newspapers, you might want to make a smaller version of those for the issues.

However, I am not too crazy about the way you always have the articles continued somewhere else in the issues.

Now, onto the questions: In the October 1985 issue you had a schematic for a blue box. There is one problem, however. The 8038 chip that is used in it is not available anymore. No companies have it or any replacement listed. Are there any that are known that might be more available or can you print a different schematic that doesn't require that part?

I have grown curious lately about the phone systems and what can be done on them through the blue box tones. I have seen a lot of stuff geared towards the American systems. The problem is that I am in Canada and therefore the info is useless. We don't have the multiple carriers and such. To place a call is simple enough. I'm more interested in the verification and things like that. Is there any chance of putting out a list of the different ways to do the known things in the form of a reference manual or whatever as a special issue?

One last thing. I would very much like to know if there is any way to trace a call without the phone company's help and without their knowledge. I have a second line available to do the trace. We have recently had some new

discontinued chip, we can only hope some of our readers have found a replacement or alternative and are willing to share it with us. We would be most grateful if our readers would send in any schematics for such devices that they come across—and we know there are some pretty incredible devices out there!

Perhaps you're a little confused about the application of blue box tones. It's true that in Canada you don't have as many long distance companies as

the United States. But these companies generally work on touch tone, not multi-frequency (MF) blue box tones. MF tones work quite well in Canada. In fact, they probably work better up there than they do down here.

Many central offices in the United States are modernizing, as are the connections within the primary long distance network (AT&T). And one of the results of modernization is an inability to effectively use blue box

tones to route calls on your own.

Consequently, many phone phreaks

have seen a lot of stuff geared towards

the American systems. The problem is that I am in Canada and therefore the info is useless. We don't have the

multiple carriers and such. To place a

call is simple enough. I'm more

interested in the verification and things like that. Is there any chance of putting out a list of the different ways to do the known things in the form of a reference manual or whatever as a special issue?

**Dear 2600:**  
**Missing Blue Box Chip**

I am writing in order to find out some

information. I've written a couple of

times before about the same thing, so maybe you can help me out. My main question is about page 2-63's blue box

plans and whether or not they are correct. If they are correct or if they have been updated I would like to know so I can experiment.

Secondly, I'd like to know if you have any listings for toll free bulletin boards or 718 boards. I hope you will get back to me on this—it will be greatly appreciated.

Here is a question you might have one of your staff try to answer for the newsletter readers. It's a problem I have and I'm sure others do too. Being I only have one phone in my house, how can I run a PC through a modem with call waiting?

**KM**  
According to the letter before yours, you'll have trouble getting parts for that blue box. We do expect to be getting other plans, however.

Check the following letter for an answer to your inquiry on 718 boards.

Boards are very easy to find. Simply call any board that you know of if you don't know any. Ask your local computer store and either read the messages

that frequently have bulletin board advertisements or look for a function that lists bulletin board numbers.

Eventually, you'll find one nearby.

Call waiting is a very annoying

problem for anyone with a computer. The beep of a second call coming in frequently interferes with data flow. As a result, the phone companies are

"Introducing" a service that should have been available from the start, and in some cases was. There are a few

different names for it, but basically it allows you to turn off call waiting for one call, usually by dialing \*70 or #70 before making a call. In many areas this feature always existed but was never publicized. Now that people are expressing an interest in it, you'll hear about it and also get charged for it.

History just keeps repeating itself.

**BBS Numbers**  
**HAL 9000/Beast 668**

Thanks for the numbers. If you have

some interesting bulletin boards, let us know. And remember to support bulletin boards by participating in them. They're one of the most vital links to freedom of speech that we have in the 1980's.

**Dear 2600:**  
**Getting Started**

Dear 2600:

I am sort of a new kid on the block when it comes to hacking. So could you please indulge me if I am not of equal proportion to you. Could you tell me what steps I should take as a beginner in the field of hacking? First I would like

to give you a background on myself if I may. I am 15 years of age, I am a known under-achiever in my school. My teachers press me for answers but I

refuse to comply with their methods. My hobbies are computers and

it might be advantageous to drop cell waiting altogether and just get another phone line with tristar from your first line. In most places, there is no charge for this feature, at least not yet. And it gives you the freedom of talking on the phone and sending data at the same time. A two line phone will allow most of the features the phone company

charges monthly fees for call waiting, three-way, speed dialing. The charge for a second phone line will just about equal all of the little charges they throw in.

## THOSE SILLY CODES

A reader from Oregon recently wrote: "Some friends and I were on a conference call [social engineering] our local SCC (Switching Control Center). We were trying to find out where a call to an unknown exchange was going. The man originating [the] call for the SCC asked us what the silly code for the original calling office was. We, of course being confused, told him we would check with our supervisor and call back. What is a silly code? How do I find out what mine is?"

Our technical writers did some investigating and this is what they came up with:

In this instance the word that is pronounced "silly" is actually CLLI (Common Language Local or Identification) Quoting from a Bellcore publication: "This code set uniquely identifies locations ranging from earth stations, building, pole, masts, etc. Codes can be used to identify existing or proposed buildings and can aid long range planners, current planners, equipment engineers, installers and maintenance personnel in their work. Location codes identify cities, states, and foreign countries as well as buildings and specific entities within buildings." A CLLI code is an 11-character code used by the telephone companies to identify the location and type of a central office. The 11-character identifier is broken down as follows—town: 4 alpha characters, state: 2 alpha characters, building: 2 alphanumerics, and building subdivision: 3 alphanumerics.

Here are some examples of towns: SEMD—Baltimore, MD; CHCG—Chicago, IL; DIDS—Dallas, TX; UNVR—Denver, CO; NYCM—New York (NY City Manhattan), NY. States adhere to standard postal abbreviations with the additions of PR—Puerto Rico, VI—Virgin Islands, AB—Alberta, Canada; BC—British Columbia, Canada; MB—Manitoba, Canada; NO—New Brunswick, Canada; NF—Newfoundland, Canada; NT—Northwestern Territories, Canada; NS—Nova Scotia, Canada; ON—Ontario, Canada; PE—Prince Edward's Island, Canada; PQ—Quebec, Canada; SK—Saskatchewan, Canada; YT—Yukon, Canada.

The building field will always have an X in it if the central office in question does not belong to AT&T or a Bell Operating Company (BOC). The

building subdivision of an end office or subscriber serving central offices includes codes

like the following, X being numeric: M6x—Marker Group, used to represent electro-mechanical switches such as crossbar, 2, 2B, or 3ESS office; DSx—Digital Switch, used to represent a 5ESS, DM510, or other digital switches.

Small independent phone companies often make their building subdivision codes the exchange code of their central office, such as 821, 423, etc. AT&T numbers its 4ESS toll switches with 2 digits numeric followed with (1571, 131).

Here are some examples of CLLI codes: CHVVAIXX921 would be Charlottesville, Virginia, independent telephone company, building 8, exchange 921, UNVRG02U0G0 would be Denver, Colorado, Zuni Street, ESS machine 0, CHCGU0257 would be Chicago, Illinois, building 2, 4ESS number 57. (Note: in cases where the building subdivision code is XT, the building code may be the number that comes after an error message from that particular 4ESS. For example, CHCBIL0257's error message might be, "Your call cannot be completed as dialed. Please check the number and dial again. 312 21. They don't say '02'.)

In the future, if you have any technical or not-so-technical questions about computers, phones, anything else, send them in. If we get enough interest, we'll publish the answers in the form of a short article.

Otherwise, questions will appear in the letters section. Our address is 2600 Editorial Department, P.O. Box 99, Month Island, NY 11953-0099.

## MIKE AGRANOFF

Author of

"The Ballad of Captain Crunch"  
published earlier this year in 2600

will appear in concert on Nov. 21

at 8 p.m. in Mount Sinai, New York.

CALL 516-751-1339 FOR INFO

## DON'T BE A SLAVE



W.O.R.M - For CyberPunks

Subversion By Technology

Send \$1 To: W.O.R.M - Room 250

2228 S. El Camino Real

San Mateo, California

94403

## TO THE SYSTEM



(continued from page 13)

# READER RESPONSE

basketball, mostly computers. My parents threaten to take away my computer which is an IBM PC if my grades don't improve and tell them I'm average but they still want A's from me. The computer is half mine — I put in well over two thousand dollars. Well, back to hacking. First, what are some approaches that I can take in getting into another computer system to explore it for the wealth of information that I could use? Next, is there any device or gadget I can make to tell when my phone call is being traced?

Third, I would like to know if you have some of the many phone phreaking devices known to us hackers? If so, I would be willing to purchase them for a reasonable fee. Also, do you have a program called a worm? I would like it for a BBS that sent a logic bomb in a TI's memory right out.

**JS:** If you read 2600 enough, you should get a good feel for what kind of systems are out there and the "wealth of information" they contain. We can't condone breaking into any of them, but we can say that if you're determined and skilled, you'll most likely get into something. Hot water, in all probability.

We know of no such device that could alert you to your phone being traced. Perhaps some government phones could do that, but we don't think it's possible at this stage in the game. Besides, how could it tell you that you were being traced before you actually got traced? It wouldn't do much good.

The 2600 Marketplace is your best bet for finding electronic devices. Ads are free to subscribers. We don't approve of logic bombs, but we do want to show you what they look like. If anyone has one, please send it in (On paper, please.)

## Private Sector Style

Dear 2600:

After reading the June issue of 2600, I decided to get right into the idea of putting up a system that would be well off the beaten path.

First, what are some approaches that I can take in getting into another computer system to explore it for the wealth of information that I could use? Next, is there any device or gadget I can make to tell when my phone call is being traced?

Third, I would like to know if you have some of the many phone phreaking devices known to us hackers? If so, I would be willing to purchase them for a reasonable fee. Also, do you have a program called a worm? I would like it for a BBS that sent a logic bomb in a TI's memory right out.

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threw! A Ma Bell security type once came to my home to lecture me on phone color boxes (1981). I threw him out. End of conversation!

I'm aware of a number of controversial BBS's run by tanguages with twice my IQ. However, when it comes to effectively disclaiming their user files, their IQ's drop to room temperature. The wrong approach is to question users as to police affiliation. The right approach is to present controversial files for educational purposes only—even to state that no illegal use is suggested, implied, or intended. It also helps much to intermix purely illegal applications with those that are legal so it can't be claimed that your files have no reasonable applications—except those that are illegal. For example, "Great sex associated with a plot is necessary for plot development". Otherwise, it's just pornography.

**John J. Williams**  
Consumertronics  
Unfortunate, a lot of those rules still don't seem to apply to computer bulletin boards, even though they are in effect just another form of publication. We feel the key lies in making this connection clear to the people inside and outside the computer world.

**And More**  
Dear 2600:  
In response to "MAC?" the perfect BBS disclaimer is found in the Bill of Rights—the right to peaceably assemble, freedom of press, etc. This ending with a note on what are forbidden activities dealing in drugs or child pornography along with a warning that anyone in violation is endangering the board and will be banned. It would be an adequate disclaimer. To JD: Why not bounce a user off a cloud at night? During World War II mouse code search lights were bounced off clouds.)

## British Payphones

Dear 2600:

The information printed on reusable British carphones in the January 1987 issue of 2600 is inaccurate. The frauds were perpetrated by the user inserting his card into the phone, turning it off, and back on again (booting) with credits being reset and not removed when a call was placed.

It seems that people are catching onto the idea of bypassing the payphone altogether by attaching a handset with alligator clips to the main wire, running into the phone. Users of this method have complained that they can hear the unit beeps coming down the line over the voice line.

Alonso-free international phone calls can be made from any coin-operated payphone in the United Kingdom. To call anywhere in the world for approximately 30 seconds, all you have to do is insert 10 pence into the phone and dial. When 30 seconds are up, the phone will start beeping, prompting you to insert more money to continue the call.

Charges for calls from payphones back to the payphone after the computer figures out where you are calling to. This process usually takes more than 30 seconds depending on where you are located in relation to an exchange.

I would like to comment on your July issue, "On Disclaimers". Your response that there is "no such thing as a 'perfect disclaimer'" is not correct. We have yet to be prosecuted or sued over any of our publications. No police entity has even talked to us about

(continued from page 9)

other more complicated work. This is leading to a substantial increase in stress level. And it doesn't stop there.

Companies are installing in the dashboards of trucks to record speed or how long a driver stops for. They can also be mounted by satellite. True tests are popping up all over the place and they can tell a great deal about a person's private life. Telephone logs and video cameras are also on the rise.

Today's technology makes it easy and cheap to monitor all kinds of things. In Alexandria, Virginia, there are devices called telecams. Basically they're telephones with cameras attached used to monitor people on probation and parole. The person calls the correctional offices after his "curfew." The telecam transmits a photograph of the person talking every few seconds. The authorities know that the person is at home and is not using an impersonator. According to the authorities, the subjects don't think of this device as intrusive at all; it will be used more and more in the future, they say. "Every day an American wakes up, he or she is less free as far as private information is concerned," says Edwards. "Privacy is being invaded on a wholesale basis."

Computerized tracking in this country

## WHO WANTS YOU?



Due to a typesetting error that we still haven't figured out, a portion of last month's article on telephone operators was omitted. The missing portion, which should have appeared three lines from the bottom of page 6, column 1, reads:

353 is not a valid exchange. So instead of getting a connection, you wind up with a recording.

It seems that it costs money off fees. New York Telephone has calls routed in such a way that it's a no-call or route and the area code is a 500 out-of-LATA area code (914, 201, 415, 212, 302, 712, 412, etc.). No call goes to an AT&T T-1ES, Allstar codes (WATS) in New York City go to the T-1PS. This includes valid New York City LATA area codes (716, 518, 212), metropolitan states. The IRS is interested in a similar arrangement. Where is it all leading? The State University of New York at Buffalo has added new computer methods to control the identity of reading material as students borrow. In November 1985, the university refused an FBI request for

# 2600 marketplace

**FOR SALE:** Radio Shack CPA-1000 Pen Register. Just like new. \$70.00.

J.C. Devendorf, 29261 Buckhaven, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677-1618.

**DO YOU HAVE** old outdated computer equipment lying around gathering dust?

Why not donate it to 2600's growing bulletinboardnetwork? Supportfreedomof speech in your time! Connect 2600 at 15161 751-2800 or write 2500, PO Box 752, Middle Island, NY 11953.

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RS-232C & parallel printer ports, full ASCII keyboard w/cursor control pad. \$1,310. CRT w/7x12 dot matrix—up to 97 columns.

capability, 32 baud rates to 38,400—much more. Excellent condition with 101T documentation. Originally \$800, sell for \$125 or best offer. Bernie Spiegel, 144 W. Eagle Rd., Suite 108, Havertown, PA 19053.

**FOR SALE:** COMMODORE 64-8-BIT ROBOTICS KIT by FischerTechnik. All hardware, interface, software and manuals included. Mini-toradion, 3388 Sendphone p.o. Box 571, Forest Hills, NY 11375.

**BESTHACKER AND PREAKER** written public domain software for the Apple II family. Two double sided diskettes full of communication and deprotection utilities. These programs were combined from the best BDS and clubs nationwide. Send \$10 cash, check, or MO to Mark B., 448 Murphy Rd., Winnetka, OH 45177-9338.

**WANTED:** Technical data for pay phones, dot matrix printers, and/or modems.

Looking for schematics and theory of operation. Call (205) 293-6333/6335, 7 to 4 CST. Ask for Airmen Parochells. Cannot accept collect calls.

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**GOT SOMETHING TO SELL?** Looking for

something to buy? Or trade? This is the place! The 2600 Marketplace is free to subscribers! Just send us whatever you have the new system destroys the link

between a person and any books as soon as the books are returned. He says, "We think you ought to be able to read

whatever you want without anybody asking questions about it." Amen.

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minute. But don't forget; they still have to buy teleconferencing equipment, which is not made by Western Electric (A&T Technologies) or Nynex. They must provide a "connection facilitator" (usually one or every eight telephone lines); they must pay monthly line charges; leave huge "performance bonds" on deposit (subject to forfeiture), pay foreign exchange charges if they locate outside of the East 36th Street CO district, and guarantee minimum performance levels. The new tariffs have not been written yet so the exact numbers are still not available.

The teleconferencing equipment must be pretty rear stuff. It must have the ability to play an introductory message, about a minute in length, welcoming the callers and explaining the costs. Then it must hunt for free spaces on a moderator's console, and provide an alert tone every ten minutes when the person is connected to identity and isolate disconnect an unidirectional call. There are about 15 companies that make GBS equipment...

## 540

Profit margins too thin for your taste? Don't worry! Say hello to the \$40 exchange, its primary feature—Sponsor Selective Pricing (SSP). New York Tel will bill whatever the IP wants to charge although they haven't filed the tariff yet. (The product manager said she'll probably pass some maximum (\$20 they won't cause parents with little children to get heart failures). Telco will bill the vendor 30 cents for the first minute and five cents per 30-second unit. In an SSP system in Boston, an IP charges about double that. Now the money adds up. One IP reports that the same telecommunications that he gets throughout the country earn \$1.10 to \$1.50 per call. With that kind of cash, why doesn't the phone company just take a percentage? After all, it's their network and their billing and collection department. The answer is that it just doesn't look right for a public utility to be "in bed" with a porno line.

Note that the phone company will probably put a limit on the line you can sign on the 540 exchange. Five minutes is being discussed, but there's no final word yet. They are trying to

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In Los Angeles, one telephonographer (coined here first?) pictures Dial-A-Person (not the real name). At the tone press 1 for straight phone sex, 2 for gay sex, 3 for bestiality, and so on. He plans to do the same here. He also wants to bring to NY that same ability in teleconferencing whereby you touch tone your person and are connected to other like-named moderator. (One presumes that also means dogs and goats will have to be outlined with readouts.)

He's a fascinating guy. He thinks the people who call are pretty sick and he hasn't called his own service in quite awhile. He has avastrophes checking up on his recording studio where new tapes are always in production. To make additional revenue, he not only uses the tapes in the several markets where he operates, he rents them to other telephonographers around the country. (I thought that noisy breathing sounded familiar.)

## \$16,970

Now, the ever-popular passive 9/6/970. The new tariffs has increased the charges to 976,970 calls. They now charge 20 cents and give no time-of-day discounting. If any such calls were made during the billing period, you'd be hard pressed to figure out how many. The charge will be added to the first line of your local-call billing page. That's the one that looks like a spreadsheet. And guess what? They're also proposing to redesign that page. Even as you read this they are test marketing the new page. (How come they never ask me?)

Assure the IPs from price shopping between the 540 and 550 exchanges.

Is teleconferencing all that it does? Nope. What it does is what the IP wants to do. 1600 will transport the call, line it, and bill. What the IP does on his end is up to him. It could be an AudioText Service, like the passive broadcast advertising systems such as Dial-A-Jock [sic]. It could be a touch-tone interactive system, much like the daily horoscope service where you touch tone your birthday and the IP's database accesses that slot in a voice mailbox system. It could also provide a PIN screening/security system (checkers, oh yeah mack!).

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The revenue to the IPs is also going up. They

get 28 cent calls. Says the phone company, "If they

want to know how many calls were made, they can do the math." (Yeah, right. Now here's another reason to buy a PC for the home.) Also, they'll change the rate on the bottom of the page if at least one 25 cent call was made during that billing period to indicate as such.

The revenue to the IPs also goes up. They the first 250,000 calls per month earn them two cents each. Then there are several increments until they hit the top level. Over 4,000,000 per month earns them 2.5 cents each. The new proposed levels are: 3.5 cents per call for the first 14,400 calls; 3.75 cents for 144,001 to 432,000 calls; 4 cents for 432,001 to 1,152,000 calls; 4.25 cents for 1,152,001 to 2,304,000 calls; and 4.5 cents for over 2,304,000 calls.

Why doesn't everyone sign up? I haven't told you the bad news. Socitels. An IP must maintain a minimum call volume of 57,600 calls per month. Any amount under that will be charged to the vendor at a rate of 24.5 cents each! For example, let's say a dial-it service received only 21,000 calls in one month (700 calls a day times 30 days). They'll eat 21,000 lines 3.5 cents or \$735. Then they'll be hit with a "charge back" of 57,600 minus 21,000 times 24.5 cents or \$8,967. That yields them a negative \$8,232 for the month. (Talk about a big phone bill!) However, with a customer base of six million, your call volume should be tremendous. The good news is that this is a much lower charge back level than ever before. Telco wants 10 percent more narrowcasting for this 57-

Whereas now they start column one deliviated by bands A, B, C, D, and E, they propose to actually state in that column where that band is (U W S C H R, E S U F F K, etc.). The first row will be the band you're in. Unfortunatly, all other rows will be the info for calls made to other areas within the LATA, listed in ascending order of east (the further down, the more expensive).

The next column is cost initial, then non-incential day/non-discounted rate. Then the additional minutes column, then the total charged for that rate. That is where they'll bury the 976,970 28 cent calls. Says the phone company, "If they

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There are the results of the 2nd U. Conest, where we asked for funny and interesting ways of answering the phone: It was not quite what we expected. The most common entry was "City Morgue— you kill 'em, we chill 'em" or some similarly macabre variant. A few people, when they answer the phone, like to pretend that they are answering machines, or video recordings. Or even their local police department. Since so few of the entrants conformed to our judgement criteria and since there was no clear winner, we're averaging out the two prizes offered and giving each of the three best entries a one-year extension to their 2600 subscriptions. And the winners:

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This is Bullwinkle. Wanna

*hear* me pull a rabbit out of my hat?"—**3-RARE**, Prospect Heights, Illinois.

\*  
\*  
\*

If you tell me you've got the wrong number again, I'll carry out my threat." —North

Babylon, New York.

六

"I thought I told you never to call me here." —Clintown

Lownship, Michigan.

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1

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